

**System and method for user-friendly fast forward
and backward preview of video**

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ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for producing fast forward and backward preview in an incoming sequence of video frames, automatically select the representative frames from the video in accordance with the video content. Respective representative frames F_R are displayed for a longer time period than that dictated by the display speed. The representative frames are selected sufficiently rarely to facilitate the user's perception and to reduce the effect of fatigue. On the other hand, the selected frames adequately represent the initial video content. In a preferred embodiment, the method does not demand the preprocessing of the video, possesses a small buffer memory, and allows selection of the representative frames in streaming fashion. This reduces the blinking that commonly occurs with hitherto-proposed approaches.

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